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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stephen A. Rago

Art Unit : 2135

Serial No. : 09/679,456

Examiner : Monplaisir G. Hamilton

Filed : October 4, 2000

Title : SELF-DESCRIBING FILE SYSTEM

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF JULY 9, 2004

Please consider the following remarks as follows:

REMARKS

Prior Art Rejections

Solits U.S. 6,493,804

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 6-9 as anticipated by Solits (U.S. 6,493,804). We acknowledge the Examiner's arguments concerning the previous amendments. More fundamentally, however, we submit that Solits neither describes nor suggests "reading a formal description of the file system by said client from said disc storage device, wherein said client can determine file information from the formal description of the file system," as recited in claim 1. The Examiner cites several sections of Solits that he believes disclose reading a formal description of a file system as those terms are used in the claims. We address each of these sections below. As is made clear in the specification, a formal description is one which allows applications to understand the format of the file system (p. 5, ll. 9-10). In one example, the

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